# CONSTELLATION SCHOOLS: OLD BROOKLYN COMMUNITY ELEMENTARY CUYAHOGA COUNTY

**REGULAR AUDIT** 

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008



# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Board of Trustees Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary 4430 State Road Cleveland, Ohio 44109

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary, Cuyahoga County, prepared by Rea & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Saylor

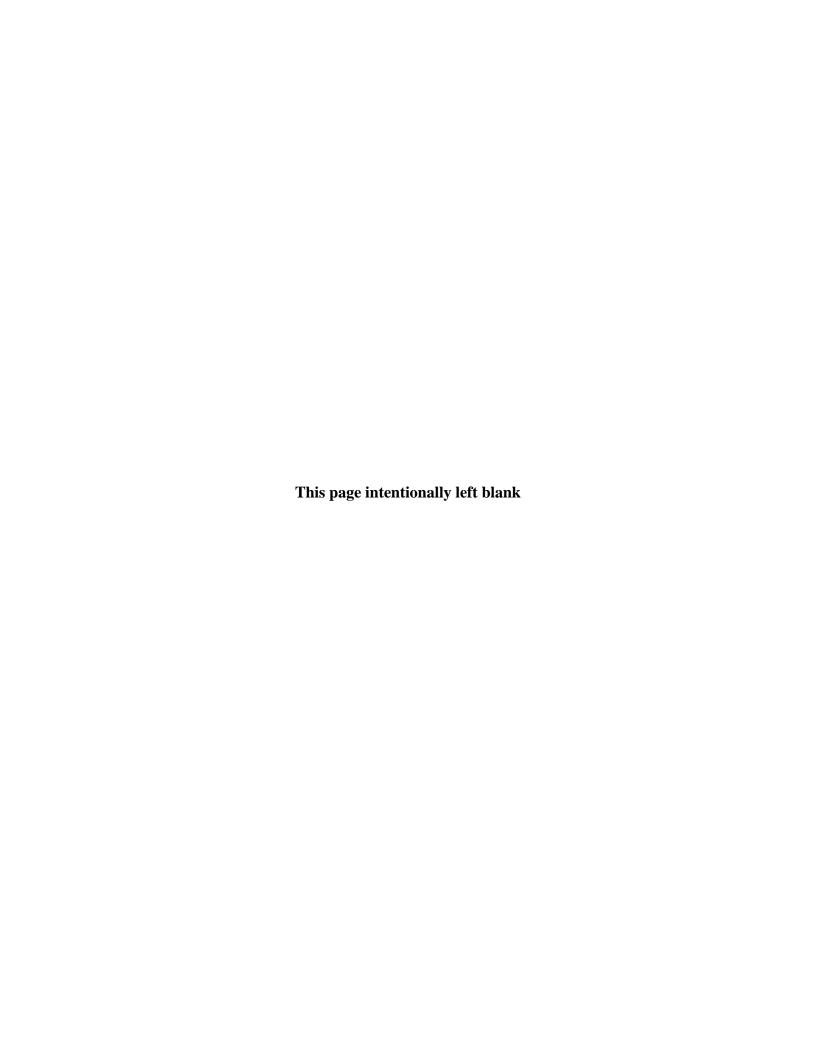
February 9, 2009



# CONSTELLATION SCHOOLS: OLD BROOKLYN COMMUNITY ELEMENTARY CUYAHOGA COUNTY

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November 26, 2008

The Board of Trustees Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary 4430 State Road Cleveland, Ohio 44109

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the School's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary, as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 26, 2008 on our consideration of the School's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary

Independent Auditor's Report

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The Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 3 through 7 are not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Lea & Associates, Inc.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Year Ended June 30, 2008 Unaudited

The discussion and analysis of Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary (OBCE) financial performance provides an overall review of financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the financial performance of OBCE as a whole. Readers should also review the Notes to the Financial Statements and the Financial Statements to enhance their understanding of the financial performance of OBCE.

## **Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for 2008 include the following:

- In total, net assets decreased \$52,969, which represents a 4.2% decrease from 2007. This is due to increased debt service related to bonds issued for the refinance of the land and building occupied by OBCE and for the construction of an addition to the building. On March 1, 2006, grades 5 through 8 were split off to form a new middle school. Also a substantial private grant was received during the 2007 year with the corresponding expenditures occurring in fiscal years 2008 and 2009.
- Total assets increased \$7,412,549, which represents more than a 387.9% increase from 2007. This is due to the deposit of funds from bond financing proceeds into escrow accounts and increased capital assets from construction and financing fees.
- Liabilities increased \$7,465,518, which represents more than an eleven-fold increase from 2007. This is entirely from bond refinancing of the land and building occupied by OBCE and the financing of an addition to the building.
- Operating revenues increased by \$117,805, which represents a 7.8% increase from 2007. This increase is a result of annual increases in basic state foundation aid and rent income from the middle school.
- Expenses increased by \$246,953 which represents a 14.7% increase from 2007. Operating expense increases are due to normal annual increases and to increased debt service as a result of the bond financing of the land, building and addition.
- Non-operating revenues decreased by \$72,158, which represents a 22.9% decrease from 2007. This decrease is due to receipt of a one time \$87,590 grant in 2007.

### **Using this Financial Report**

This report consists of three parts, Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Financial Statements and the Notes to the Financial Statements. The Financial Statements include a Statement of Net Assets, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets and a Statement of Cash Flows.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Year Ended June 30, 2008 Unaudited

#### **Statement of Net Assets**

The Statement of Net Assets looks at how well OBCE has performed financially through June 30, 2008. This statement includes all of the assets, liabilities and net assets using the accrual basis of accounting, which is the accounting method used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues earned and expenses incurred during the year, regardless as to when the cash is received or expended.

The following schedule provides a summary Statement of Net Assets for fiscal years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 for OBCE.

	2008	2007
Assets		
Cash	\$ 419,408	\$ 450,640
Other Current Assets	4,292,752	7,422
Non-Current Assets	1,824,113	0
Capital Assets	2,787,048	1,452,710
Total Assets	9,323,321	1,910,772
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	349,527	79,184
Long-Term Liabilities	7,775,000	579,825
Total Liabilities	8,124,527	659,009
Net Assets		
Investments in capital assets net of related debt	788,178	872,885
Temporarily Restricted assets net of related debt	293,886	0
Unrestricted	116,730	<u>378,878</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$1,198,794</u>	<u>\$1,251,763</u>

Net Assets decreased \$52,969, due primarily to increased debt service related to the bond financing for the school building addition. For assets, cash decreased \$31,232; bond escrow accounts increased \$4,245,903; due from other governments increased \$4,615; accounts receivable increased \$34,849, prepaid employee withholding decreased \$36; bond reserve accounts increased \$1,191,907; deferred charges increased \$632,206 and net capital assets increased \$1,334,338 from 2007. For liabilities, accounts payable decreased \$5,308; accrued wages and benefits increased \$4,849; interest payable increased \$266,517; deferred revenues increased \$4,285; mortgage notes payable decreased \$579,825 and bonds payable increased \$7,775,000 from 2007.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Year Ended June 30, 2008 Unaudited

# Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets reports operating and non-operating activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008.

The following schedule provides a summary of the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets for OBCE for fiscal years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007.

	2008	2007
Revenues		
Foundation and Poverty		
Based Assistance Revenues	\$1,370,290	\$1,340,722
Other Operating Revenues	<u>261,023</u>	172,786
Operating Revenues	1,631,313	1,513,508
Internet	40.710	14.425
Interest	48,710	14,425
Federal and State Grants	193,465	201,706
Private Grants and Contributions	156	98,358
Non-Operating Revenues	242,331	314,489
Total Revenues	1,873,644	1,827,997
Expenses		
Salaries	714,171	705,947
Fringe Benefits	200,896	183,302
Purchased Services	514,802	499,638
Materials and Supplies	107,987	117,769
Capital Outlay	10,647	6,831
Depreciation and Amortization	85,146	104,433
Other Operating Expenses	<u>292,964</u>	61,740
Total Expenses	1,926,613	1,679,660
Net Income/(Loss)	(52,969)	148,337
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	1,251,763	1,103,426
Net Assets at End of Year	<u>\$1,198,794</u>	<u>\$1,251,763</u>

Net Assets increased in fiscal year 2007 and decreased in fiscal year 2008. This is due to increased operating efficiencies for both years offset by increased debt service related to bond financing for a building addition in 2008. Although certain expenditures such as salaries will increase or decrease as the number of classes increase and decrease other costs remain fixed such as facilities costs resulting in more efficient operations. Additionally, grants have been received for capital improvements to our building and to purchase various educational programs and equipment.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Year Ended June 30, 2008 Unaudited

The most significant change in revenues from 2007 to 2008 is a decrease in Private Grants and Contributions of \$98,202 due to receipt of a one-time \$87,590 foundation grant in 2007. Foundation funding increased slightly due to annual base increases by the state of Ohio. Other Operating Revenue increased due to rent increases and services provided to the middle school. Federal and State Grants declined slightly while interest income increased from investment in certificates of deposit escrow account earnings.

Most categories of expense increased from 2007 to 2008. This is a direct result of normal annual increases in operating costs plus increased debt service due to bond financing. Salaries and Fringe Benefits increased \$25,818; Purchased Services increased \$15,164; Materials and Supplies decreased \$9,782; Capital Outlay increased \$3,816 and Depreciation and amortization decreased \$19,287. All of these differences are minor changes from the prior year. Other Operating Expenses increased \$231,224 due to bond issue debt service.

# **Capital Assets**

As of June 30, 2008, OBCE had \$2,787,048 invested in computers and office equipment, furniture and equipment, land, building, construction in progress and building improvements, net of depreciation. This is a \$1,334,338 increase over June 30, 2007.

The following schedule provides a summary of Fixed Assets as of June 30, 2008 and 2007 for OBCE.

	2008	2007
<b>Capital Assets (net of depreciation)</b>		
Land	\$ 80,800	\$ 80,800
Construction in Progress	1,514,279	0
Building	801,013	828,042
Building Improvements	347,356	482,895
Computers and Office Equipment	2,065	7,688
Furniture, Equipment & Materials	41,535	53,285
Net Fixed Assets	<u>\$2,787,048</u>	<u>\$1,452,710</u>

For more information on capital assets see the Notes to the Financial Statements.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Year Ended June 30, 2008 Unaudited

### **Debt Service**

On November 12, 2002, OBCE purchased the land and building in which it operates. Financing of the purchase was accomplished through two mortgages. The first mortgage was held by US Bank National Association with a face value of \$707,500 for a term of fifteen years and an interest rate of 5.60% per annum. This mortgage was guaranteed by the Ohio School Facilities Commission for an amount up to \$600,000. The second mortgage was held by G & W Properties with a face value of \$232,500 for a term of five years and an interest rate of 9.50% per annum.

On January 23, 2008, OBCE refinanced the land and building in which it operates. Additional funds were borrowed to facilitate construction of an addition to meet enrollment demand for the school. Financing of the purchase was accomplished through bonds issued by The Industrial Development Authority of the County of Pima (IDA) as part of a multi-school, multi-property project. Under terms of the bond financing IDA obtained title to the property occupied by OBCE. IDA secured a mortgage on the land, building and improvements from Wells Fargo Bank, National Association. Financing was achieved through the issuance of a series of bonds maturing annually beginning on January 1, 2012 and continuing until January 1, 2038. Interest is at the rate of 6.375% per annum for the bonds maturing between 2012 and 2019 and at a rate of 7.00% per annum for the bonds maturing after 2019. The outstanding principal balance as of June 30, 2008 is \$7,775,000.

For more information on debt service see the Notes to the Financial Statements.

### **Current Financial Issues**

OBCE opened in the fall of 1998 as one of the first community schools in the State of Ohio. In its tenth year of operations it has grown from 30 students, two teaching staff members and expenses of \$181,928 to a total of 194 students, 19 teaching staff members and expenses of \$1,926,613. On March 1, 2006, grades 5 through 8 were split off to form Old Brooklyn Community Middle School. This is providing more flexibility in the curriculum for each student. During this time we purchased our own educational facility and are currently in the process of constructing an addition to accommodate increasing enrollment and allow both schools to cohabit the same property. As the School continues to mature we strive to maintain the high level of services we currently offer, to provide a strong educational product to our students and families and to maintain the reputation we have developed during our previous years.

# **Contacting the School's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our constituents with a general overview of the finances for OBCE and to show accountability for the monies it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information please contact Thomas F. Babb, CPA, Treasurer, by mail at Constellation Schools, 5983 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Parma, Ohio 44129; by e-mail at <a href="mailto:babb.thomas@constellationschools.com">babb.thomas@constellationschools.com</a>; by calling 440.845.7688; or by faxing 440.845.7689.

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# Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary Cuyahoga County Statement of Net Assets

# As of June 30, 2008

Assets:	
Current Assets:	

Current Assets:	
Cash	\$419,408
Escrow Accounts	4,245,903
Due from Other Governments	11,541
Accounts Receivable	35,308
Total Current Assets	4,712,160
Non-Current Assets:	
Bond Reserve Accounts	1,191,907
Deferred Charges	632,206
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	2,787,048
Total Non-Current Assets	4,611,161
Total Assets	9,323,321
<u>Liabilities:</u>	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	61,392
Interest Payable	269,206
Accrued Wages and Benefits	4,849
Deferred Revenue	14,080
Total Current Liabilities	349,527
Long Term Liabilities:	
Bond Notes Payable	7,775,000
Total Liabilities	8,124,527
Net Assets:	
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt	788,178
Temporarily Restricted assets, net of related debt	293,886
Unrestricted	116,730
Total Net Assets	\$1,198,794

# **Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary**

# **Cuyahoga County**

# Statement of Revenues, Expenses and

# **Changes in Net Assets**

# For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

Operating Revenues:	
Foundation and Poverty Based Assistance Revenues	\$1,370,290
Other Operating Revenues	261,023
Total Operating Revenues	1,631,313
Operating Expenses:	
Salaries	714,171
Fringe Benefits	200,896
Purchased Services	514,802
Materials and Supplies	107,987
Capital Outlay	10,647
Depreciation and Amortization	85,146
Other Operating Expenses	39,012
Total Operating Expenses	1,672,661
Operating Loss	(41,348)
Non-Operating Revenues & Expenses:	
Interest Income	48,710
Interest Expense	(253,952)
Federal and State Grants	193,465
Private Grants and Contributions	156
Total Non-Operating Revenues & Expenses	(11,621)
Net Loss	(52,969)
Net Assets at Beginning of the Year	1,251,763
Net Assets at End of Year	\$1,198,794

# Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary Cuyahoga County Statement of Cash Flows

# For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

# **Increase (Decrease) in Cash:**

Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	
Cash Received from State of Ohio	\$1,370,290
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(909,697)
Cash Payments to Employees for Services	(709,935)
Other Operating Revenues	262,153
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	12,811
Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities:	
Private Grants and Contributions Received	156
Federal and State Grants Received	188,850
Net Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities	189,006
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities:	
Payments for Capital Acquisitions	(1,419,483)
Payments for Deferred Charges	(632,206)
Bond Issue Proceeds	7,775,000
Bond Interest Credit Proceeds	32,903
Increase in Escrow Funds	(5,437,810)
Mortgage Interest Payments	(20,338)
Mortgage Loan Principal	(579,825)
Net Cash Used for Capital and Related Financing Activities	(281,759)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:	
Interest	48,710
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	48,710
Not Degrees in Cook	(21.222)
Net Decrease in Cash	(31,232)
Cash at Beginning of Year	450,640
Cash at End of Year	\$419,408

# Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary Cuyahoga County Statement of Cash Flows

# For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008 (Continued)

# Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:

Operating Loss	(\$41,348)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:	
Depreciation and Amortization	85,146
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:	
(Increase) in Accounts Receivable	(34,849)
Decrease in Prepaid Employee Withholding	36
(Decrease) in Accounts Payable	(5,308)
Increase in Accrued Wages and Benefits	4,849
Increase in Deferred Revenue	4,285
Total Adjustments	54,159
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$12,811

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

## I. Description of the School and Reporting Entity

Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary (OBCE), known previously as Old Brooklyn Montessori School (OBMS) and Old Brooklyn Community School, is a nonprofit corporation established on February 3, 1997 pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702 to maintain and provide a school exclusively for any educational, literary, scientific and related teaching service that qualifies as an exempt organization under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. On December 19, 1997, OBCE (under the name Archwood Montessori School) received a determination letter confirming tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Management is not aware of any course of action or series of events that have occurred that might adversely affect the tax-exempt status of OBCE. OBCE, which is part of Ohio's education program, is independent of any school district. OBCE may sue and be sued, acquire facilities as needed, and contract for any services necessary for the operation of OBCE.

OBCE (as OBMS) was approved for operation under a contract between the Governing Authority of OBCE (as OBMS) and the Ohio Department of Education (the Sponsor) for a period of five years commencing in the fall of 1998. The contract was renewed in 2003 for a two-year period commencing July 1, 2003. On October 16, 2003 OBCE (as OBMS) entered into a contract with Lucas County Educational Service Center (LCESC) to have LCESC replace the Ohio Department of Education as their sponsor. On June 12, 2006, the name of the school was changed to Old Brooklyn Community School. The contract with LCESC was renewed effective November 2, 2006. Under the terms of the contract LCESC will provide sponsorship services for a fee. See Note XIV for further discussion of the sponsor services. OBCE entered into an agreement with Constellation Schools (CS) to provide management services for the fiscal year. See Note XIV for further discussion of this management agreement. On March 27, 2007 the school name was changed to Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary.

OBCE operates under a five-member Board of Directors. The Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract, which include, but are not limited to, state-mandated provisions regarding student population, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admission standards, and qualification of teachers. The Board of Directors controls the instructional facility for OBCE, which is staffed by nineteen certificated full time teaching personnel who provide services to 194 students. During 2008, the board members for OBCE also serve as the board for Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Middle.

Cuyahoga County

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

## II. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of OBCE have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governmental nonprofit organizations. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. OBCE also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board statements and interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant of OBCE's accounting policies are described below.

#### 1. Basis of Presentation

Enterprise accounting is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges or where it has been decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability or other purposes.

### 2. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by its measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities are included on the Statement of Net Assets. Operating statements present increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in net total assets.

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. OBCE prepares financial statements using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded when the exchange takes place. Revenues resulting from non-exchange transactions, in which OBCE receives value without directly giving equal value in return, such as grants and entitlements, are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the fiscal year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when the use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which OBCE must provide local resources to be used

**Cuyahoga County** 

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which resources are provided to OBCE on a reimbursement basis. Expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

### 3. Cash

All monies received by OBCE are deposited in demand deposit accounts.

# 4. Budgetary Process

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705.391 OBCE prepares and adopts an annual budget which includes estimated revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year and a five year forecast of revenues and expenditures. OBCE will from time to time adopt budget revisions as necessary.

#### 5. Due From Other Governments and Accounts Receivable

Monies due OBCE for the year ended June 30, 2008 are recorded as Due From Other Governments and as Accounts Receivable. A current asset for the receivable amount is recorded at the time of the event causing the monies to be due.

### 6. Capital Assets, Mortgage Fees and Depreciation

Capital assets are capitalized at cost and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated fixed assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the dates received. All items with a useful life of one year or greater and a value of \$500 or more are capitalized. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized. Mortgage Fees have been capitalized at cost and are being amortized over the term of the financing for which they have been incurred. Bank mortgage financing was replaced by bond financing during the year.

All capital assets are depreciated except for land and construction in progress. Depreciation of buildings, building improvements, computers, office equipment and furniture and equipment is computed using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. Improvements to fixed assets are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related fixed assets or less. Estimated useful lives are as follows:

**Cuyahoga County** 

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

<b>Capital Asset Classification</b>	Years
Building	40
Building Improvements	10 to 40
Mortgage Fees	5 or 15
Computers and Office Equipment	3
Furniture and Equipment	10

## 7. Intergovernmental Revenues

OBCE currently participates in the State Foundation Program and the State Poverty Based Assistance Program.. Revenues received from these programs are recognized as operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met. OBCE also participates in Federal Entitlement Programs, the Federal Lunch Reimbursement Program and various State Grant Programs. State and Federal Grants and Entitlements are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met. Amounts awarded under the above named programs for the 2008 school year totaled \$1,563,755.

### 8. Private Grants and Contributions

OBCE received grants and contributions from private sources to support the schools programs. Private grants and contributions are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which they are received. Amounts received for the 2008 school year totaled \$156.

## 9. Compensated Absences

Vacation is taken in a manner which corresponds with the school calendar; therefore, OBCE does not accrue vacation time as a liability.

Sick leave benefits are earned at the rate of one and one-quarter day per month and can be accrued up to a maximum of one hundred twenty days. OBCE will accept the transfer of sick days from another school district up to the maximum accrual amount. No financial accrual for sick time is made since unused sick time is not paid to employees upon employment termination.

Cuyanoga County

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

### 10. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

### 11. Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied. The deferred revenue for OBCE consists of materials fees received in the current year which pertains to the next school year.

### 12. Deferred Charges

Deferred charges have been recorded on the Statement of Net Assets to recognize financing fees related to the bond financing arrangement discussed in note VIII. These charges are amortized over the term of the bonds using the straight-line method, which approximates the effective interest method.

# III. Deposits

At fiscal year end June 30, 2008, the carrying amount of OBCE's deposits totaled \$419,408 and its bank balance was \$441,337. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure," as of June 30, 2008, \$341,337 of the bank balance was exposed to custodial risk as discussed below, while \$100,000 was covered by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, OBCE will not be able to recover the deposits. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities in amounts equal to at least 105% of the carrying value of the deposits. Such collateral, as permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, is held in single financial institution collateral pools at the Federal Reserve Banks or at member banks of the federal reserve system, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of OBCE.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

# IV. Capital Assets

A summary of capital assets at June 30, 2008 follows:

	Balance 6/30/07	Additions	Deletions	Balance 6/30/08
Capital Assets Not Being Dep	preciated:			
Land Construction in Progress Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	\$ 80,800 0 80,800	\$ 0 1,514,279 1,514,279	\$ 0 0 0	\$ 80,800 _1,514,279 _1,595,079
Capital Assets Being Depreci	ated:			
Building Building Improvements Computers/Office Equipment Furniture and Equipment Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated: Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>117,500</u> <u>1,761,073</u>	0 104,535 1,560 0 106,095	(5,470) (208,060) 0 0 (213,530)	930,959 430,103 175,076 117,500 1,653,638
Building Building Improvements Computers/Office Equipment Furniture and Equipment Total Accumulated Depreciation:	(108,387) (50,733) (165,828) (64,215) (389,163)	(23,484) (32,014) (7,183) (11,750) (74,431)	1,925 0 0 0 1,925	(129,946) (82,747) (173,011) (75,965) (461,669)
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	1,371,910	31,664	(211,605)	1,191,969
Total Capital Assets Net	<u>\$1,452,710</u>	<u>\$1,545,943</u>	<u>\$(211,605)</u>	\$2,787,048

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

### V. Purchased Services

Purchased Services include the following:

Instruction	\$68,028
Pupil Support Services	83,675
Staff Development & Support	14,146
Administrative	210,646
Occupancy Costs	86,244
Food Services	49,588
Extracurricular Activities	2,475
Total	<u>\$514,802</u>

### VI. Dawning School Building Purchase

On July 1, 2002, OBCE moved its operations to the former Dawning School located at 4430 State Road, Cleveland, which it purchased on November 12, 2002. The purchase price of \$950,000, along with other purchase costs totaling \$61,759, have been capitalized and will be depreciated over a forty year period. Loan fees totaling \$5,470, had been capitalized to be depreciated over a fifteen year period. All operations of OBCE are located at this site.

In order to finance a multi-million dollar expansion project, OBCE sold the building and land which it occupies to The Industrial Development Authority of the County of Pima (IDA) on January 23, 2008 as part of a bond financing deal. OBCE leases the property from IDA under a capitalized lease arrangement (see Note VIII). The original purchase price, other purchase costs and building improvements continue to be recognized as capital assets and are being depreciated over their remaining useful life. Loan fees, previously capitalized under the original mortgage, have been expensed net of accumulated depreciation.

## VII. Mortgage Notes Payable

On November 12, 2002, OBCE entered into two mortgage agreements relating to the purchase of the former Dawning School (see note VI). A first mortgage note in the amount of \$707,500 was held by US Bank National Association. The note was for a term of fifteen years with an interest rate of 5.60 percent per annum. The Ohio School Facilities Commission guaranteed the first mortgage up to \$600,000. A second mortgage note in the amount of \$232,500 was held by G & W Properties and was subordinate to the first mortgage. The note was for a term of five years with an interest rate of 9.50 percent per annum and was fully paid during 2008.

Cuyahoga County

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

During fiscal year 2008 principal was reduced by \$555,979 for US Bank National Association and \$23,846 for G & W Properties. Interest expense totaled \$17,174 for US Bank National Association and \$475 for G & W Properties. The final payment on the G & W Properties mortgage was made in November, 2007. In January 2008 the balance remaining for the US Bank National loan was paid off as part of a refinance of the building. All mortgages and guarantees relating to the original financing have subsequently been released.

### VIII. Capital Leases

On January 23, 2008 OBCE closed a multi-school, multi-property bond financing arrangement with the Industrial Development Authority of the County of Pima (IDA). Under terms of the bond agreement IDA acquired the property owned by OBCE for the remaining mortgage balance carried by OBCE at the time. In addition IDA is financing a multi-million dollar building expansion to meet increasing demand for enrollment. The property is leased back to OBCE through annual lease renewals through January 2038. IDA secured a mortgage on the land, building and improvements from Wells Fargo Bank, National Association. Financing was achieved through the issuance of a series of bonds maturing annually beginning on January 1, 2012 and continuing until January 1, 2038. Interest is at the rate of 6.375% per annum for the bonds maturing between 2012 and 2019 and at a rate of 7.00% per annum for the bonds maturing after 2019. The outstanding principal balance as of June 30, 2008 is \$7,775,000 and interest payable due July 1, 2008 is \$269,206. Interest expense, net of a \$32,903 accrued interest issuance credit, during 2008 totaled \$236,303.

These lease obligations meet the criteria of a capital lease as defined by Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 13, "Accounting for Leases" and has been recorded in the financial statements. Land, Building, Other Purchase Costs, and Building Improvements in existence at the date of the property sale continue to be recognized as capital assets and are being depreciated over their remaining useful life. Construction in Progress totaling \$1,514,279 as of June 30, 2008 is recognized as a non-depreciable asset. Bond Issuance costs, finance fees and underwriters discount totaling \$642,921 are recorded as deferred charges and are being amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Accumulated amortization as of June 30, 2008 was \$10,715. The Bond Indenture requires OBCE to meet certain covenants. As of June 30, 2008 OBCE is in compliance with those covenants.

As part of the agreements for the leases, monies were deposited into several escrow accounts with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. as Bond Trustee. Payments for construction and financing activities have been paid from these accounts through June 30, 2008. Lease payments were made by OBCE to cover bond interest and administrative fees due in July

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

2008 and to make deposits into reserve accounts. Funds were deposited from initial bond proceeds into an Operating Reserve and a Reserve Fund for future operating and debt service needs. A Supplemental Reserve, to be used for future debt service, is funded by payments of an additional 8% of the base lease payment for the full bond term. Lease payments made during 2008 to fund interest, reserves and bond expenses totaled \$224,126. The balances of escrow and reserve accounts as of June 30, 2008 are as follows:

Project Fund	\$3,453,238
Bond Fund	780,736
Expense Fund	11,929
Total Bond Escrow Accounts	\$4,245,903
Reserve Fund	\$ 781,245
Supplemental Reserve	19,606
Operating Reserve	391,056
Total Bond Reserve Accounts	\$1,191,907

The assets refinanced and acquired through the capital lease as of June 30, 2008 are as follows:

Land	\$	80,800
Building		930,959
<b>Building Improvements</b>		430,103
Bond Finance Fees		642,921
Construction in Progress	<u>1</u>	,514,279
Sub-Total	3	,599,062
Less Accumulated Depreciation		(223,408)
Net Book Value	<u>\$3</u>	,375,654

Future minimum lease payments for principal and interest (does not include reserves and management expenses) under the capital lease are as follows:

Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2009	\$ -0-	\$ 538,412	\$ 538,412
2010	-0-	538,412	538,412
2011	-0-	538,412	538,412
2012	93,256	538,412	631,668
2013	99,578	532,467	632,045
2014-2018	597,469	2,558,949	3,156,418

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

2019-2023	821,915	2,336,201	3,158,116
2024-2028	1,150,681	2,006,721	3,157,402
2029-2033	1,615,379	1,543,351	3,158,730
2034-2038	3,396,722	893,547	4,290,269
Total	<u>\$7,775,000</u>	<u>\$12,024,884</u>	<u>\$19,799,884</u>

### IX. Sub Lease

OBCE sub-leases space to Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Middle (OBCM). Under the terms of the sub-lease OBCM made monthly lease payments of \$5,000 from July 2007 through January, 2008. Effective with the sale of the property to IDA (see Note VII), the lease was amended to a monthly rate of \$16,800. OBCE charged a total of \$119,000 from OBCM during the year. As of June 30, 2008, \$2,000 was due from OBCM for unpaid rent and is recorded as a receivable.

# X. Risk Management

# 1. Property and Liability Insurance

OBCE is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. For fiscal year 2008, OBCE contracted with Indiana Insurance Company for all of its' insurance.

General property and liability is covered at \$10,000,000 single occurrence limit and \$11,000,000 aggregated. Hired and Non-Owned Vehicles are covered at \$1,000,000 combined single limit of liability. Other coverage includes Employee Crime, School Leaders Errors & Omissions, Sexual Abuse and Misconduct, Electronic Data Processing and Business Interruption.

## 2. Workers' Compensation

OBCE makes premium payments to the Ohio Worker's Compensation System for employee injury coverage. There have been four claims filed by OBCE employees with the Ohio Worker's Compensation System between January 1, 2003 and June 30, 2008. The total payments made for these claims have been \$2,179. In the opinion of management, these claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of OBCE as June 30, 2008.

Cuyahoga County

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

### 3. Employee Medical, Dental, and Life Benefits

OBCE provides medical, dental and life insurance benefits to all full time employees. Employees participate in premium payments through pretax payroll deductions. Total insurance benefits paid by OBCE for the fiscal year is \$68,665.

### **XI.** Defined Benefit Pension Plans

### 1. State Teachers Retirement System

OBCE participates in the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer public employee retirement system. STRS Ohio provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS Ohio issues a stand-alone comprehensive annual financial report that may be obtained by writing to STRS Ohio, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215-3371, by calling toll-free 1-888-227-7877, or by visiting the STRS website at <a href="https://www.strsoh.org">www.strsoh.org</a>.

New members have a choice of three retirement plan options. In addition to the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, new members are offered a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. DC and Combined Plan members will transfer to the DB plan during their fifth year of membership unless they permanently select the DC or Combined Plan.

The DB Plan benefits are established under Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. Any member may retire who has (i) five years of service credit and attained age 60; (ii) 25 years of service credit and attained age 55; or (iii) 30 years of service credit regardless of age. The annual retirement allowance, payable for life, is the greater of the "formula benefit" or the "money-purchase benefit" calculation. Under the formula benefit the retirement allowance is based on years of credited service and final average salary, which is the average of the members' three highest salary years. The annual allowance is calculated by using a base percentage of 2.2% multiplied by the total number of years of service credit (including Ohio-valued purchased credit) times the final average salary. The 31<sup>st</sup> year of earned Ohio service credit is calculated at 2.5% with an additional onetenth of a percent added to the calculation for every year over 31 years until 100% of the final average salary is reached. For members with 35 or more years of Ohio contributing services, the first 30 years will be calculated at 2.5%. Under the money-purchase benefit, members' lifetime contributions plus interest at specified rates are matched by an equal amount from other STRS Ohio funds. The total is then divided by an actuarially determined annuity factor to determine the

- A Community School -Cuyahoga County

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

maximum annual retirement allowance. Benefits are increased annually by 3% of the original base amount.

The DC Plan allows members to allocate all their member contributions and employer contributions equal to 10.5 percent of earned compensation among various investment choices. Benefits are established under Sections 3307.80 to 3307.89 of the Ohio Revised Code. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal. Employer contributions into members' accounts are vested after the first anniversary of the first day of paid service. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member dies before retirement benefits begin, the members' designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

The Combined Plan offers features of the DC Plan and the DB Plan. Member contributions are allocated to investments selected by the member, and employer contributions are used to fund a defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. Plan members' defined benefit is determined by multiplying 1% of the members' final average salary by the members' years of service credit. The defined portion of the Combined Plan is payable to members on or after age 60. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50.

A retiree of STRS Ohio or another Ohio public retirement system is eligible for reemployment following the elapse of two months from the date of retirement. Contributions are made by the reemployed member and employer during reemployment. Upon termination of reemployment or age 65, whichever comes later, the retiree is eligible for an annuity benefit or equivalent lump-sum payment in addition to the original retirement allowance. A reemployed retiree may alternatively receive a refund of only member contributions with interest before age 65, once employment is terminated.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, members were required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and OBCE was required to contribute 14%. Member and employer contributions were established by the State Teachers Retirement Board, upon recommendation of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10% for members and 14% for employers provided by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. Of the 14% contributed by OBCE, 13% was the portion used to fund pension obligations.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

OBCE's required contributions for pension obligations for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007 and 2006 were \$83,532, \$83,560 and \$103,987, respectively; 99.35% has been contributed for fiscal year 2008 and 100% for fiscal years 2007 and 2006. \$546 representing the unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2008 is recorded as a liability within the respective funds. Member and employer contributions actually made for DB, DC and Combined Plan participants will be provided upon written request.

### 2. School Employees Retirement System

OBCE contributes to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits; annual cost-of-living adjustments; and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by state statute per Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report can be obtained by contacting SERS, 300 E. Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746 or by calling toll free 1-800-878-5853. It is also posted on SERS' website at <a href="https://www.ohsers.org">www.ohsers.org</a> under *Forms and Publications*.

Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and OBCE is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 14% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended, up to statutory maximum amounts, by the SERS' Retirement Board. OBCE's contributions to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007 and 2006 were \$10,027, \$8,844, and \$5,915, respectively; 100% has been contributed for fiscal years 2008, 2007 and 2006.

### XII. Post-Employment Benefits Other than Pension Benefits

Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer a cost-sharing, multiple employer health care plan to eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined plans. Coverage under the current program includes hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums.

Pursuant to Section 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Retirement Board has discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the associated health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. All benefit recipients, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium.

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# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Under Ohio law funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. Of the 14% employer contribution rate, 1% of covered payroll was allocated to post-employment health care. For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007 and 2006 OBCE's contributions to post-employment health care were \$6,425, \$6,428 and \$7,999, respectively; 99.35% has been contributed for fiscal year 2008 and 100% for fiscal years 2007 and 2006. \$42 representing the unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2008 is recorded as a liability within the respective funds.

SERS administers two post-employment benefit plans, the Medicare Part B Plan and the Health Care Plan as permitted by Ohio Revised Code Sections 3309.69 and 3309.375. The Medicare Part B Plan reimburses for Medicare Part B premiums paid by eligible retirees. The Health Care Plan provides health care and prescription drug plans administered by two third-party administrators. The Retirement Board establishes rules for premiums paid by retirees for health care coverage and varies depending on the plan selected, qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

The Medicare Part B premium reimbursement plan reimburses eligible retirees for the lesser of January 1, 1999 Medicare Part B premiums or the current premium. The Medicare Part B premium for calendar year 2007 (most recent information available) was \$93.50. SERS' reimbursement to retirees was \$45.50. The Retirement Board, with the advice of the actuary, allocates a portion of the current employer contribution rate to the Medicare Part B Fund. For fiscal year 2007 (most recent information available) the actuarially required allocation was .68%. For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007 and 2006 OBCE's contributions to Medicare Part B were \$487, \$430 and \$287, respectively; 100% has been contributed for fiscal years 2008, 2007 and 2006.

The Health Care Plan is funded through employer contributions. Each year after allocations for required benefits the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employers' 14% contribution. At June 30, 2007 (the most recent information available) the health care allocation was 3.32%. The actuarially required contribution (ARC), as of December 31, 2006 annual valuation, was 11.50% of covered payroll. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities of the plan over a period not to exceed thirty years.

An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated according to service credit earned. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

surcharge. For fiscal year 2008, the minimum compensation level was established at \$35,800.

For fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007 and 2006 OBCE contributions to the Health Care Plan, including the surcharge were \$6,083, \$5,927 and \$3,667, respectively; 68.77% has been contributed for fiscal year 2008 and 100% for fiscal year s 2007 and 2006. \$3,706 representing the unpaid surcharge due for fiscal year 2008 is recorded as a liability within the respective funds

## XIII. Contingencies

### 1. Grants

OBCE received financial assistance from Federal and State agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs requires compliance with terms and conditions, specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of OBCE. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of OBCE at June 30, 2008.

### 2. Enrollment FTE

The Ohio Department of Education conducts reviews of enrollment and full-time equivalency (FTE) calculations made by the schools. These reviews are conducted to ensure the schools are reporting accurate student enrollment data to the State, upon which state foundation funding is calculated. The conclusions of this review could result in state funding being adjusted. As of the date of this report adjustments to the state funding received during fiscal year 2008 are reflected in the financial statements.

## XIV. Sponsorship and Management Agreements

OBCE entered into an agreement with Lucas County Educational Service Center (LCESC) to provide sponsorship and oversight services as required by law. The agreement is effective October 16, 2003. Sponsorship fees are calculated as 1.5% of the Fiscal Year 2008 Foundation payments received by OBCE, from the State of Ohio. The total amount due from OBCE for fiscal year 2008 was \$20,554, of which \$1,731 was outstanding as of June 30, 2008.

- A Community School -Cuyahoga County

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

OBCE entered into an agreement with Constellation Schools to provide legal, financial, and business management services for fiscal year 2008. The agreement was for a period of one year, effective July 1, 2007. Management fees are calculated as 5.5% of the Fiscal Year 2008 Foundation payment received by OBCE from the State of Ohio plus a fixed fee of \$87,500. The total amount due from OBCE for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008 was \$162,865 all of which was paid prior to June 30, 2008.

# XV. Temporarily Restricted Assets, Net of Related Debt

Temporarily Restricted assets, net of related debt represents the combination of Escrow Accounts and Bond Reserve Accounts, net of the outstanding portion of Bonds Payable used to finance these assets. The Project Fund, which is included in Escrow Accounts, is being held for Construction purposes and will be liquidated during the next eighteen months. The Bond Fund and the Expense Fund, which are included in Escrow Accounts, along with the Bond Reserve Accounts, which are being held for bond financing reserve requirements, will be funded until January 1, 2038.

#### **XVI.** Construction Commitments

The following construction commitments at June 30, 2008 will be financed with capital lease proceeds:

	Total	Expended to	Balance at
	Authorized	June 30,	June 30,
Project	Cost	2008	2008
Dawning Building Expansion	\$4,500,000	\$1,152,657	\$3,347,343



November 26, 2008

To the Board of Trustees Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary 4430 State Road Cleveland, OH 44109

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

We have audited the financial statements of Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 26, 2008. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary Internal Control-Compliance Report

Page 2

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting, which we have reported to management of Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary in a separate letter dated November 26, 2008.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Trustees, audit committee, management and the School's sponsor, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Lea & Associates, Inc.



# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

# CONSTELLATION SCHOOLS: OLD BROOKLYN COMMUNITY ELEMENTARY CUYAHOGA COUNTY

### **CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU** 

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED APRIL 16, 2009